

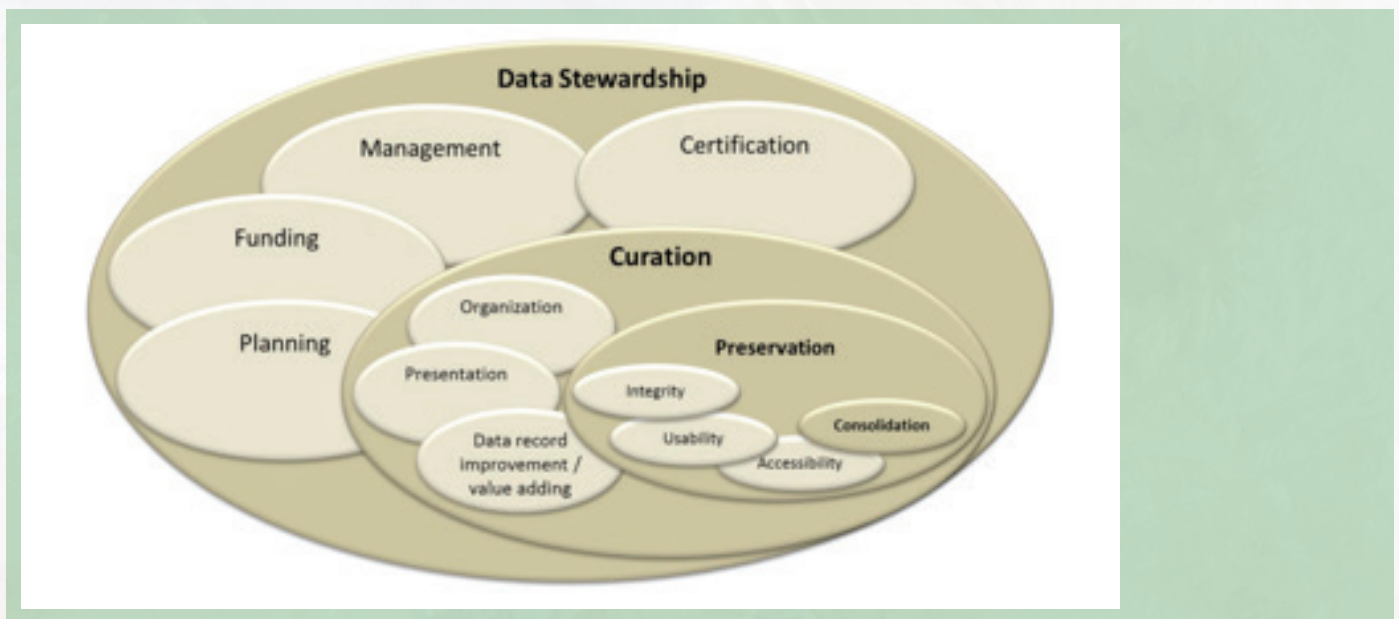
Data Preservation for CEOS

Earth observation data are unique snapshots of the condition of Earth at a specific point in time. As such, they constitute an asset for all of humankind that must be preserved, i.e., safeguarded against loss and kept accessible and usable for current and future generations. The importance of safeguarding these data becomes even more apparent when one considers the over 40 years worth of data available in Earth observation archives around the world – and the increasing demand for monitoring long-term variations in environmental parameters, such as sea surface temperature or global ozone distributions, which require long-time series of data. Moreover, with the advent of new, high-resolution Earth observation missions, data volumes are expected to grow significantly in the near future.

Background

WGISS accomplishes its Data Preservation and Curation efforts through the Data Stewardship Interest Group (DSIG). In addition to data archiving, the DSIG mandate covers data and associated knowledge consolidation and valorization aspects.

The DSIG helps extend the existing European framework for data preservation and management cooperation to all CEOS Agencies.



Purpose

Data Preservation and Curation activity objectives include:

- Enabling the sharing of agency investigations, developments, experiences, and lessons learned related to EO data stewardship
- Drafting common cross-agency best practices and/or guidelines for data stewardship for potential adoption by WGISS
- Sponsoring technical exchanges and conducting joint activities and/or pilot projects on specific data stewardship topics
- Establishing and maintaining a CEOS “Data Purge Alert” service
- Contributing to Group on Earth Observation (GEO) Standardization activities

Scope

Activities focus on EO Data, Metadata, and Associated Knowledge:

- Long-term archiving approaches, systems, and media
- Formats and standards
- Lifecycle concepts
- Valorization and curation

Achievements:

- Raised awareness on EO data stewardship.
- Shared investigations, developments, experiences, and lessons learned relating to EO data preservation
- Full list of documents that comprise the White Papers, Best Practices, Guidelines, and Recommendations on the WGISS website
- Implemented Joint Activities and Pilot Projects on specific data preservation topics and Long-Term Archive Strategies
- Implemented a CEOS “Data Purge Alert” service